

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

May 13, 1980

AM

10:00

CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Seventieth Anniversary of the Commission of Fine Arts established May 17, 1910.
- B. Dates of the next meetings: June 10, 1980
 July 29, 1980
 September 3, 1980
- C. Approval of the April 8, 1980 minutes.
- D. H.R. 3008, General George Meade Statue.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

- A. National Park Service, National Capital Region
 - 1. CFA MAY/13/80 - 1, Memorial to the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. Constitution Gardens, revised designs.
 - 2. CFA MAY/13/80 - 2, Union Station, National Visitors Center, replacement of roofing.
 - 3. CFA MAY/13/80 - 3, Mall modified lighting, Smithsonian Castle area.
- B. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint
 - 1. CFA MAY/13/80 - 4, Simon Weisenthal Medal

C. Department of Health and Human Services

1. CFA MAY/13/80 - 5, New department seal.

D. Department of the Army

1. CFA MAY/13/80 - 6, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Aquaduct, new rapid filter, filtration plant for the McMillan Reservation.

E. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

1. CFA MAY/13/80 - 7, Application of solar shading screens to headquarters building, 17th and New York Avenue, N.W.

F. District of Columbia, Department of General Services

1. CFA MAY/13/80 - 8, Designs for new canine facility for the Metropolitan Police Department, Blue Plains.

G District of Columbia, Department of Housing and Community Development

1. Old Georgetown Act

- a. O.G. 80-57, 1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W., new office building.

- b. Appendix 1

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

- a. S.L. 80-29, 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., proposed office building.

- b. S.L. 80-30, 201 East Capital Street, S.E. addition to the Folger Library, final working drawings.

- c. S.L. 80-31, 2500 Calvert Street, N.W., construction of apartment addition to Shoreham Hotel. Preliminary review.

- d. Appendix 2

III. LEGISLATION

- A. CFA MAY/13/80 - 10, Request for comments on S. 2080. "The Public Buildings Act of 1979." Draft report to Senate Committee.

IV. SITE INSPECTION

- A. Columbarium at Arlington National Cemetery
- B. Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery
- C. L'Enfant Memorial, Custis-Lee Mansion

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

May 13, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 80-28 HPA. 80-172	1065-67 Wisconsin Ave. N.W. Mr. Simpson	Rebuild front wall, roof slab and 2nd floor slab. New H Vac and electrical systems.

ACTION: Returned for additional design studies. Retain existing masonry openings as discussed with architect on April 9, 1980.

* O.G. 80-31 HPA. 80-172	2929 M Street, N.W. National Savings and Trust	Construct new full service bank.
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ACTION: The Commission recommends additional study of alternatives as presented for review March 11, 1980. The Commission recommends the introduction of carefully selected window units in the auxillary wing facing M Street. Such units will integrate the scale of the new banking structure with that of the existing buildings to the east. The Commission also may recommend a wood window sash be substituted for the metal sash proposed for the octagonal banking structure. Because of the importance of the site, the Commission urges that careful consideration be given to all details, especially the brick cornices, string courses and water table. The Commission staff will be available to work closely with the architect.

* O.G. 80-40 HPA. 80-296	2921 M Street, N.W. National Savings and Trust	Raze building.
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ACTION: Issue permit for razing gas station. Existing structure has no historical or architectural significance.

* O.G. 80-52	3020 K Street, N.W. Western Development	Construct new apartment/office complex.
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ACTION: For ACTION see letter from J. Carter Brown to Robert L. Moore dated April 22, 1980.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

APPENDIX 1

May 13, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 80-53 HPA. 80-271	3631-3633 Canal Road Canal Associates	Construct new apartments and shops.

* ACTION: Concept approved for massing and general design approach of new apartment structure which includes retention of front portions of existing 19th Century residential structures. Submit design developments, working drawings and landscape plans and material samples for review by the Commission prior to issuance of permit.

* O.G. 80-62 HPA. 80-298	3277 M Street, N.W. M & Potomac Ltd Partner- ship	Mixed use complex - residential retail and garage.
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ACTION: Issue permit for construction in Windsor Wood Casement Sash (or equal).

O.G. 80-64 HPA. 80-303	2903 P Street, N.W. Ms. Joanna Sturm	Replace 134 linear foot fence cedar board.
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ACTION: Issue permit for new red cedar 6' - 0" high board fence to replace existing fence. New parking area is to have cedar board gates to match fence.

O.G. 80-66 HPA. 80-311	2934 M Street, N.W. MeKong Co.	Change facade of building by: Removing 2 entrance doors and replace them with 1 standard door with wood around. Remove exter- ior doors block on inside and replace window to match 2 existing
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ACTION: Do not issue permit. Indicated changes to the two double door entrances on M Street are inappropriate to the historic character of the building.

O.G. 80-67 HPA. 80-316	3409 R Street, N.W. Jack Hadley	Confirmation of drawings
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ACTION: Issue permit for alterations and repairs of residential structure. No objection to changes in previously submitted design.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

May 13, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 80-68	1068 31st Street, N.W.	Application of a sign made by
HPA. 80-317	Mr. and Mrs. Florkoski, Jr.	owner of the business.

ACTION: Issue permit for 3' - 0" square wood sign to be hung from existing metal bracket.

O.G. 80-69	3616 Prospect Street, N.W.	Replace three window units.
HPA. 80-318	Gerald Luss	

ACTION: Issue permit for alteration to fenestration on street facade. Rear elevation not visible from public space.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

May 13, 1980

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 80-25	516 North Capital Street, N.W. U.S. Foods Corporation	Add 36" stone railing around the paved parking area, plant evergreen hedges and planters and install signage.

ACTION: Approved

S.L. 80-28	2201 Virginia Avenue, N.W.	Remove and replace existing
HPA. 321	Leo Bernstein	front steps to building.

ACTION: Issue permit for new entrance with brick to match existing
building.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

13 May 1980

The meeting was convened at 10:10 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Members Present:

Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Philip W. Buchen
Hon. Victorine DuPont Homsey
Hon. Eli S. Jacobs
Hon. Frederick D. Nichols
Hon. Kevin Roche

Staff Present:

Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
Mrs. Sue Kohler

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Seventieth Anniversary of the Commission of Fine Arts, established 17 May 1910. The Secretary noted that Saturday would be the Commission's seventieth anniversary, and reminded the members that the group would proceed to Arlington Cemetery after the meeting to place a wreath at the tomb of L'Enfant. He also called attention to the copies in each member's folder of a paper to be read on 15 May by Mrs. Kohler at the National Collection of Fine Arts Symposium on Art in Washington. The subject of the talk will be "Artists and Architects in Government Planning: The Beginnings of the Commission of Fine Arts, 1901-1910."

B. Dates of next meetings, approved as: 10 June 1980
29 July 1980
3 September 1980

C. Minutes of 8 April 1980 meeting, approved.

May 13, 1980

D. H. R. 3008, General George Meade Statue. The Secretary related the current efforts through this legislation to transfer the Meade statue from the District to Fort Meade, Maryland. The statue, now in storage, formerly stood on the Mall near the Grant Memorial and was moved when the new reflecting pool was built. The consensus was that it would be preferable to keep the statue in Washington, on Pennsylvania Avenue if possible, because of Meade's strong association with that state. EXHIBIT A, A-1

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA MAY/13/80-1, Memorial to the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution Gardens. Revised designs. The Assistant Secretary recalled the previous submission of this project at the 8 January 1980 meeting. At that time it was recommended that it be restudied with a view towards simplification and relaxation of the formal geometry. The version presented at this meeting reflected the designer's reaction to these recommendations and, as the Assistant Secretary pointed out, the new design would also be less visible from off the island than the original version.

The designer, Joseph Brown of EDAW, landscaping and planning consultants, was then introduced. He noted, first, that the Landmarks Committee and the Planning Commission had seen this new version. He said the project was now more relaxed, and the stepping stones, which had extended into the water forming a half circle, had been removed. The arrangement of the split granite signature stones in a fan-like pattern, stepping up from a central point, was similar to the original version, although simplified. The reveals between the stones would be planted with mosses or other low growing plants, and on each stone would be inscribed the signature, place of birth and profession of each signer. In regard to the planting, Mr. Brown said it would have an early Spring focus, with trees behind the memorial forming a sort of garden wall. These would be flowering trees, probably saucer and star magnolias, whose blossoming time would not conflict with that of the cherry trees in the vicinity. The existing willow trees at the water's edge would remain. Raising the grade on the island slightly would solve drainage problems, and the banks thus formed would be planted with vinca. Curbs would be granite with a low granite wall used for seating. Mr. Nichols questioned the use of turf for a walk shown in the memorial area, but Mr. Brown said it would be kept away from the heavy traffic area and was not expected to be a problem. There were no other questions; the members thought the new design much more appropriate to the site than the original version and it was approved. EXHIBIT B

2. CFA MAY/13/80-2, Union Station, National Visitors Center, replacement of roofing. The Secretary explained that the roof of the station needed to be replaced because of severe leaking problems. He introduced architects Ford Chinworth and Fred Koontz from the VVKR Partnership, who said that in the 1940's, the original concrete tiles on the roof had been covered with an asphaltic coating. This has now failed, trapping water between it and the concrete substructure and causing the tiles to deteriorate. The architects said they had considered three solutions: The simplest was to put a membrane sheet over the concrete substructure; this would, however, be dull in color and lack texture. Replacing the membrane and installing new concrete tiles would restore the original appearance, but would be very expensive. The solution recommended (Scheme B) was to use a standing seam roof of terne covered stainless steel, with 4 x 4 wood battens to add texture. While this would be very light and shiny when first applied, it would quickly darken to a dull grey-color. Scheme B was approved. EXHIBIT C

3. CFA MAY/13/80-3, Mall, modified lighting, Smithsonian Castle area. The Secretary said that this was not a formal submission, but he wanted to discuss the project with the members. He said the Smithsonian needed to increase the intensity of the lighting in the Museum and Metro areas because of frequent night meetings and had set up a demonstration project to try out different types of lamps. The Secretary said that he had seen the demonstration, and one of the lamps, while brighter, seemed to him to be in the same color range as the other Mall lights and not objectionable. Park Service representative John Parsons was present and said there had been an error in that project and different lights had now been set up. He also said the Park Service is considering using these new lamps all through the Mall, and he would like to make a formal submission of this at the next meeting. As the new lighting would affect the whole Mall, the Chairman thought the Commission should definitely make a night inspection of the demonstration project; the evening of 9 June, just before the next meeting, was considered acceptable to all those present.

B. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. CFA MAY/13/80-4, Simon Wiesenthal Medal. The Secretary introduced George Schafer from the Mint who said that this medal would commemorate Mr. Wiesenthal's long years of service tracking down Nazi war criminals in South America. On the obverse would be a portrait of Mr. Wiesenthal taken from a photograph; the reverse would carry a flaming torch with a world map in the background and the inscription, "Keeper of the Flame to the Conscience of the World." Two designs were shown for the reverse; revision No. 2 was considered preferable, and the design of the medal was approved. EXHIBIT D

C. Department of Health and Human Services

1. CFA MAY/13/80-5, New department seal. The Secretary showed a design for this seal, based on a semi-abstract eagle form. He said the Department intended to use this same design, with perhaps minor variations, for its logo. There were no objections and the design was approved. EXHIBIT E

D. Department of the Army

1. CFA MAY/13/80-6, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Aqueduct, new rapid filter filtration plant for the McMillan Reservation. The Assistant Secretary reviewed this project, saying that the Army needed to replace this obsolete facility, the last slow sand filtration system remaining in a major city. Harry Ways, Chief of the Washington Aqueduct Division, and C. C. Peterson, also from the Aqueduct Division, both discussed the proposed new facility. It would be constructed of red brick to match the old buildings in the complex. After inspecting several renderings, the members agreed that the design was much too fussy and said it should be simple and handsome in a way appropriate to its use, as are the older structures. Mr. Peterson said that some of the forms objected to reflected the functions they would accommodate, but all agreed that the building could be much more simple. The Commission suggested that it be given more study and brought to the staff for review before resubmission at a future meeting. The design was not approved. EXHIBIT F

E. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

1. CFA MAY/13/80-7, Application of solar shading screens to headquarters building, 17th and New York Avenue, N. W. The Secretary said this submission was for the installation of "Kool Shade" solar screens on the windows of the building. The windows are set 5-6 inches back from the surface, and the fine metal shade would be placed in front of them, within the window frame. The shades would be black, set in a bronze toned frame to match the windows. In reply to a question, the representative from FDIC, Thomas Loudon, said the screen is also available in a bronze color, but it had been determined that black looked better on this building. The members were concerned about the lack of reflectivity and the effect on the overall appearance of the building. Mr. Loudon said that plans were to install a total of 17 screens on the 2nd, 4th and 6th floors and make temperature readings for ten days to see if the screens were effective before ordering them for all windows. The members asked the Secretary to inspect both black and bronze samples and determine which one should be used for the test installation.

EXHIBIT G

F. District of Columbia, Department of General Services

1. CFA/MAY/13/80-8, Design for new canine facility for the Metropolitan Police Department, Blue Plains. Mr. Carson explained that this new structure, to be located in a semi-wooded area near Nichols Avenue and the Anacostia Freeway, would replace a temporary structure. In addition to kennels and veterinary facilities, there would also be a lecture hall. There were no objections to the design and it was approved. EXHIBIT H

G. District of Columbia, Department of Housing and Community Development

1. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 80-57, 1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, N. W., new office building. The Assistant Secretary explained that this project would be adjacent to another building now under construction designed by the same architect, Vlastimil Koubek. It would have its major elevation on K Street, between Thomas Jefferson and 31st Streets. He recalled that the Commission had seen two previous proposals for this site by a different developer, one for a design center and one for an apartment-office structure; these had been disapproved for reasons of design and/or height. He reviewed the hearing under the D. C. Historic Preservation Act which resulted in the demolition of the two small historic structures on the site which the Commission had tried to save. He said the Georgetown Board had seen this new project and was happy with the sixty foot height and simple design, although some restudy had been suggested in an attempt to differentiate it more from Mr. Koubek's building immediately to the north.

Mr. Koubek was introduced and said he had tried to keep the design simple because the building will face the freeway and also because his other building is rather complicated. He said the material would be brick, although lighter in color than that used on the other building. The windows would be grouped in different ways by floor to give some variety. Mr. Koubek said the alley behind the building would remain open and the wall facing this alley would have fenestration.

Mr. Roche stressed the importance of keeping the building very simple. The Secretary said some citizens wanted to comment on this project at the next Georgetown Board meeting, and so it was suggested that Mr. Koubek submit his revisions and material samples at that time. The Commission members agreed that if the revisions and material samples met with the Board's approval and there were no strong citizen objections, they would be willing to give the project their approval and not require the architect to make a second submission.

b. Appendix I, approved.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 80-29, 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., proposed office building. The Secretary introduced architect George Hartman from the firm of Hartman-Cox who gave a slide presentation to illustrate his concept for a new office-retail structure on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue, across from the Old Post Office and IRS buildings. On the east it would face the FBI building, and on the west the old Evening Star building. The new structure would incorporate a number of old buildings on 10th and 11th Streets, most importantly, the U. S. Storage Building on 10th Street and the one on the corner of 11th and E, now occupied by Dart Drug. The facades of three other old buildings on 11th Street would also be retained.

The new structure would conform to the alignment of Pennsylvania Avenue, unlike the existing building line. It would pick up the cornice lines on the avenue, rising to 105 feet on this frontage, then stepping up to a height of 135 feet (the height of the Evening Star building), before rising to a maximum of 160 feet in the center of the block. There would be frequent use of this "stepping" concept where the small, old structures meet the new building. Inside, a small atrium is planned, to be lighted by clerestory windows from the side, rather than from above. Pedestrian passages would connect the atrium with the major streets. Mr. Hartman said the materials were expected to be limestone and limestone-colored brick. He stressed the opportunity this project would offer for extending the F Street retail area (from Garfinckels to Woodward and Lothrop) south to Pennsylvania Avenue. Two floors of retail space would be provided, and the section of 11th Street from E Street to the avenue would be embellished with kiosks and planting and emphasize pedestrian circulation, although some automobile traffic would still be permitted.

The members were all very pleased with the concept. The Chairman thought perhaps the very symmetrical 10th Street elevation could be improved by departing slightly from the symmetry, and Mr. Hartman agreed. He pointed out that PADC had asked that the cornice line at the corner not depart from the 105 foot height. In every other aspect the members approved the initial concept enthusiastically.

b. S.L. 80-30, 201 East Capitol Street, S. W., addition to the Folger Library, final working drawings. Mr. Carson recalled the previous submission of this project in April 1977. This addition to Paul Cret's 1932 building would fill in a courtyard space facing a public alley, and the final drawings showed very little change from the preliminaries seen in 1977. The architect, George Hartman from Hartman-Cox, said the only changes were a steel cornice connecting the beams, added for stiffening purposes, and some porcelain enamel

panels, scarcely visible, which would be painted white to match the stone. There were no objections and the project was approved.

c. S.L. 80-31, 2500 Calvert Street, N. W., construction of apartment addition to Shoreham Hotel. Preliminary review. The Assistant Secretary recalled the Commission's previous review of this project in July 1979 and its approval of the massing concept at that meeting. He said the architects, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, had proceeded with design development and were at this time submitting preliminary drawings. William Zeckendorf, the developer, was introduced and discussed the changes which had occurred in the past year. He said the agreement with the Indian hotel management group had not materialized, and the management functions had been assumed by the Dunfey Hotel Group, a subsidiary of Aer Lingus, the Irish Airline. Mr. Zeckendorf said that renovations for the hotel would cost more than expected; also, there were more problems with accommodating buses and trucks than anticipated. He said the number of apartments had been reduced, although the basic concept of the new building remained the same.

Robert Dunfey, head of the management group, spoke next. He reviewed his company's renovation and upgrading of several other fine hotels, phasing out the convention business, and said he was confident he could achieve the same excellent results at the Shoreham as he had elsewhere.

Architect David Childs then discussed the preliminary design and the modifications which had been made. He said the number of apartments had been reduced from 261 to 231 and the building moved back closer to the hotel. He noted that the square footage had not changed; out of 700,000 allowed, the project will use about 576,000. Facing the park, the new building would have a heavily articulated facade rising from a four story terraced base and would reach a height of 137 1/2 feet (14 stories) when measured from the ravine in the park. It would be sixty feet above the park at 24th Street, and ninety feet at 28th Street. Mr. Childs said the District Government required a fire lane on the park frontage; this would be treated as a landscaped, turf-covered "drive" stabilized by a fieldstone retaining wall varying in height depending on the grade, but for the greater part of its length of only minimal height. He said materials for the new building were expected to be brick and limestone in colors similar to those used on the hotel.

In discussing servicing and traffic circulation, Mr. Childs said that the loading dock area and the major part of the traffic to and from the underground parking would occur on 24th Street, although there would be some apartment traffic through the 28th Street entrance. This street would also have to be the site of

seven truck docks for servicing the hotel ballroom, although Mr. Childs said he expected the use of these would be minimal once the hotel begins to get rid of its convention business, as intended. He said this space could then be used to get tour buses off the street if that becomes a problem. He noted the neighbors' concern about the traffic problems on 28th Street and said he had met with them to discuss this. While he shared their concern, he believed that most of the traffic problems were caused by inadequate servicing of the ballroom, which he hoped to correct, and by embassy parking on the streets. He did not think the apartment traffic at the 28th Street entrance would be of any consequence. He added that the underground parking garage would provide 520 spaces for the hotel and 302 for the apartments, more than required.

Mr. Childs noted that there would be "two front doors" to the Shoreham complex. The hotel entrance on Calvert Street would be improved by removing the outbuildings and the parking area, and it would be given a garden aspect through landscaping and the use of greenhouse type structures. The second "front door" would be the entrance to the apartments on 28th Street, through an opening into an "arrival plaza."

John Parsons, from the National Park Service, was the next speaker. He expressed his apologies for not having spoken in regard to this project at the initial presentation in 1979, but said he had only recently become aware of its magnitude. He said that since the current building boom began, the Park Service has had to deal with a number of sizeable projects going up along the edges of the District's two major parks, Glover-Archbold and Rock Creek, on sites heretofore not considered suitable for development. Thus far, no buildings higher than ninety feet have been erected, with the exception of the Watergate group, and Mr. Parsons said that while he was pleased with the architectural quality of this project, the Park Service was worried about the nearly 140 foot height facing the park and the precedent it might set. He said he hoped the Commission would reverse its original approval and ask that the height be limited to ninety feet. There were several other aspects of the project which concerned Mr. Parsons: the loading docks and parking entrance on 24th Street which would be highly visible from the park; the disturbance of the natural contours of the land to provide for the fire lane; and the effect of the construction on the water table. He also noted that the trees ranged from 60-100 feet in height, not 120 feet, as Mr. Childs had estimated, and therefore the building would be very visible from the park, especially in the winter.

Approximately ten residents of the neighborhood were present and several asked to comment. Jacques de Puy, attorney for the Shoreham West Cooperative and for a number of individual home owners

in the area, was the first to speak. He said the neighbors of the Shoreham were concerned about the bulk and mass of the project as it would face the park and 28th Street. The effect on 28th Street would be that of a sheer wall, 10-12 stories in height, facing houses no more than forty feet high. He said that while the traffic congestion expected might not be a legitimate concern of the Commission of Fine Arts, certainly the effect on the park could be addressed. He suggested moving the building slightly to the east to alleviate the effect on 28th Street and also asked that the apartment entrance be moved to Calvert Street. Mr. de Puy said his group had retained two consultants to study the problem: Robert Plavnick and Alan Lockman. Mr. Plavnick commented on the excessive height of the building as it would face the park, rising above the tree line, and he questioned how many of the trees which help screen the bulk of the project would remain. Architect Alan Lockman suggested moving the building slightly to the east and terracing or cascading both ends so as to break up the sheer wall on 28th Street and provide a way of concealing the loading docks on 24th Street. He also suggested curving the driveways leading to the parking areas to avoid looking directly into the garage areas.

The next speaker was Howard Michnick, president of the board of the Shoreham West. He also suggested the cascading concept and stressed the importance of keeping both the hotel and apartment entrances on Calvert Street.

Linda Sher, a resident of McGill Terrace, and Alice Bralove, another nearby resident, said the neighbors did not oppose the new residential development but thought it was too large and were concerned about its effect on the park. They said the residents all make use of the park frequently and they were concerned about the effect of such a large structure on this prime recreational area.

Robert Streve, representing residents of the Sheraton Park, said they did not object to the development because the removal of the buses and the parking from Calvert Street, and the attractive landscaping planned for the entrance would eliminate the problems they have had with the hotel.

Lindsey Williams, active in a neighborhood group convened by the ANC, stressed the vehicular problems and the importance of keeping access to the project on Calvert Street.

The members then discussed the design with Mr. Childs. Mr. Roche thought the project was too large and also too high by four stories. He also objected to the truck docks on 28th Street and the exposure of the loading docks and parking garage on 24th Street. Suggestions were made as to how the objections might be dealt with, although

Mr. Childs felt that from the standpoint of both economics and design, it would be extremely difficult to comply with the recommendations. He said there would be no parking visible from the park, and in answer to Mr. Plavnick's question about how many trees would remain, he said that no more than eight, of insignificant size, would be removed.

The Chairman concluded the discussion by saying that sight lines must be studied and tree heights accurately measured. He said that, in general, the effect on the park should be very carefully studied, and in view of the Park Service's objection to the height and the establishment of a precedent, the Commission could not approve the project in this form. EXHIBIT I

d. Appendix 2, approved.

III. LEGISLATION

A. CFA MAY/13/80-10, Request for comments on S. 2080, "The Public Buildings Act of 1979." Draft report to Senate Committee. The Secretary asked for comments on this report, and Mrs. Homsey asked if it would be possible to suggest that the programming for the competitions follow A.I.A. rules. The Secretary and Mr. Buchen were not certain this specific request could be put in the statute, but it was suggested that a phrase such as "according to accepted procedures" could be inserted where the form of competition was described. The Secretary said the bill as written was very broad and did not define the competition process. Mr. Buchen offered to review the bill with the Secretary and work out a way to incorporate this concern in the Commission's report. EXHIBIT J

The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m. and the members left for a site inspection of the Columbarium and Amphitheatre at Arlington Cemetery, and to lay a wreath at the tomb of L'Enfant to commemorate the Commission's seventieth anniversary.

IV. SITE INSPECTION

- A. Columbarium at Arlington National Cemetery.
- B. Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery.
- C. L'Enfant Memorial, Custis-Lee Mansion.

At the Columbarium, the members approved the use of the darker of two grey marble samples for the niche covers. After inspecting

May 13, 1980

11.

the stage at the Amphitheatre, they approved the proposed replacement of the present plywood stage with marble, which would involve only the enlargement of the present top platform and would not substantially affect the seating area. In regard to the proposed new door for handicapped entrance to the main floor, the members suggested that the symmetry of the structure be maintained by cutting matching doors on either side. EXHIBIT K

Signed,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles H. Atherton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charles" being more prominent and the last name "Atherton" following in a similar style.

Charles H. Atherton,
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

July 1, 1980

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am happy to respond to your letter of June 26, 1980 on H.R. 3008 concerning the artistic merit and proposed relocation of the General George Meade Monument. The Commission did discuss the matter at its May 13, 1980 meeting with the unanimous recommendation that the statue remain in Washington. The Commission's full report took the form of a letter to the Office of Management and Budget, a copy of which I am enclosing. We will be available to discuss the matter further as requested.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable
Lucien N. Nedzi
United States House of
Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KVIN ROUCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

June 12, 1980

Dear Mr. Peterson:

I am writing in regard to H.R. 3008, a bill that would authorize the permanent relocation of the Meade Memorial from a site in Washington to Fort Meade in Maryland.

The Commission of Fine Arts considered this legislation at its meeting on May 13, 1980. It was unanimously concluded that the Commission recommend against the bill, and that the statue remain in Washington.

As you may know, the memorial, which stood for many years just north and west of the Grant Memorial on the Mall, was a gift from the state of Pennsylvania commemorating General Meade's victory at Gettysburg; thus the location close to the intersection of Constitution Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue. When the center leg of the inner loop freeway was constructed, it was necessary to dismantle and store the statue pending the selection of another nearby site. Despite the fact that funds have been available for a number of years to restore it to a new location, the statue remains in storage today.

It is the Commission's hope that the statue can be re-erected on a site closely related to Pennsylvania Avenue. Besides the obvious connection with Gettysburg, Pennsylvania Avenue would be a most suitable location since it was General Meade who led the Army of the Potomac up the Avenue following the end of the Civil War.

At the present time, the Navy Peace Memorial, also a Civil War monument, is situated in the middle of the circle at the east end of Pennsylvania Avenue, at the foot of the Capitol. It is not a particularly distinguished piece of sculpture, and in the event the new Navy Memorial authorized by Congress this spring is eventually located on

...2/

EXHIBIT A

Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the Archives Building, the Peace Memorial, as it is generally known, might very well be located elsewhere in Washington or the vicinity of Arlington Cemetery. The Meade Memorial would make a suitable replacement, and this site would be appropriate.

For these reasons the Commission urges the Administration to oppose H.R. 3008. The sculpture of Washington is part of the historical and cultural fabric of the Capital, and we believe the Meade Memorial should remain here.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Ronald K. Peterson
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference
Executive Office of the President
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

June 3, 1980

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-366-1066

Dear Jack:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved the modified design for the Memorial to the Signers of the Declaration of Independence during its meeting on May 13, 1980. The changes made in response to this Commission's comments in January were presented by EDAW consultant, Joe Brown. We feel that the design benefits from the simplification and added continuity with the natural lines of the island and adjacent parklands of Constitution Gardens.

The Commission would appreciate seeing details of the stonework, paths and landscaping materials at the appropriate time.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
National Park Service
National Capital Parks
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

EXHIBIT B

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-366-1066

June 3, 1980

Dear Jack:

Replacing the roofing at Union Station over the main waiting room, National Visitors Center was discussed by the Commission of Fine Arts with representatives of VVCR, the consultants and Messers Parsons, Ronsisvalle and Knodler of your office during our meeting on May 13, 1980. Theterne coated stainless steel standing seam roofing proposed for the building seems a most appropriate solution, and one which will be similar in texture to the original tiles. Realizing the urgency of the work, and the level of interior damage that is taking place, we are encouraged by the Park Service's thorough and carefully considered proposal for dealing with one of the more prominent landmarks in central Washington.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
National Park Service
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

EXHIBIT C

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-366-1066

June 3, 1980

Dear Mrs. Hackel:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved designs for the Simon Weisenthal Medal at its meeting on May 13, 1980. In approving the medal, the members preferred alternative number two for the reverse side, which omits the lettering across the face of the medal.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mrs. Stella Hackel
Director of the Mint
501 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-366-1966

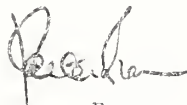
June 3, 1980

Dear Mr. Wise:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved designs for the new Department of Health and Human Services seal at its meeting on May 13, 1980. Although we understand there is a desire on the part of the Department to adopt a modified version of the seal as a logo to be used as identification on items such as stationery or other documents, the Commission hopes that there will be a single graphic identification for the agency. We therefore recommend that the seal be used as the agency's principal source of identification, and that additional logos not be developed.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Bill M. Wise
Assistant Secretary for
Public Affairs
Department of Health, Education
and Welfare
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20201

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

June 3, 1980

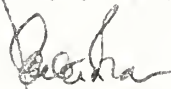
Dear Mr. Ways:

The Commission of Fine Arts appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and Mr. Peterson during our discussion of the proposed new filtration facility for McMillan Reservoir, during our May 13, 1980 meeting. We also appreciated your staff taking the time to show our staff members the facility and the site for the new plant. However, we have some misgivings about the proposed design and feel that additional study should be given to this facility, since it will be erected in such a visible and historic location. We would like to see a simplification of the exterior design and massing appropriate to the public-works character of this type of structure. The older buildings near by afford excellent examples of this type, and their color and materials should be reflected in the new structure.

The Commission is pleased that much of the open space of the site will be retained as the facility shifts from slow-sand to rapid filtration, and hopes that many of the buildings of the earlier era can be retained. We understand that the siting of the new facility will require the removal of some visible structures as well as the underground filters.

The Commission meets again on June 10 and July 29, 1980. We will be happy to review revised designs at either of these meetings, and our staff will be available prior to the meetings if you need any assistance.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Harry C. Ways, Chief
Washington Aqueduct Division,
Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
5900 MacArthur Boulevard, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20315

EXHIBIT F

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-366-1066

June 3, 1980

Dear Mr. Louden:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed a proposed addition of solar shading screens to the exterior of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation building at 17th and New York Avenue, N.W. We realize that additional devices on the window will have an effect on the appearance on the austere facades of this building and advise caution in detailing the project to ensure the quality of the screen and its installation. The Commission thinks that there may be merit in using bronze, rather than black screens and frames and that an initial mock-up showing both would be in the interest of getting the best possible result. As we told you during our meeting, the Commission's staff will be able to assist in inspecting alternative samples, since I am sure that you expect to move the project along as quickly as possible.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Thomas W. Louden, Jr.
Assistant Controller -
Operations
Federal Deposit Insurance
Corporation
Washington, D.C. 20429

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROGHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

June 3, 1980

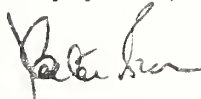
Dear Mr. Pavlick:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to approve the designs for the new Canine Facility at its meeting on May 13, 1980.

The project, which is to be located at Blue Plains, was designed by Harold S. Brookins of the Department of General Services. The Commission would like to commend the architect for his simple, straightforward design. It will be an attractive building, especially if the same care is exercised in landscaping the site as was shown in designing the building. We hope this can be accomplished.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Charles Pavlick
Architect-Engineer
Liaison Officer
Government of the District
of Columbia
Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

EXHIBIT H

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FRIDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-366-1066

June 3, 1980

Dear Mr. Pifer:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed S.L. 80-31, a proposal to build a residential addition to the Shoreham Hotel at 2500 Calvert Street, N.W. during its meeting on May 13, 1980. This was a preliminary design based on an earlier scheme, noted as S.L. 79-78.

The Commission's previous review of the proposal had included approval of the razing application for the existing motel-type structure facing the park. We understand that a permit has already been issued for that work. The Commission also reacted favorably at that time to the concept of renovating the existing main hotel building. At that initial phase the Commission examined models, photographs and drawings for the new proposed apartment wing of the complex and approved the general massing subject to further design development. The National Park Service was not represented at the meeting, and the Commission had no evidence at that time of its reaction to the design in relation to Rock Creek Park.

On May 13, 1980 the applicant presented further developed design drawings together with a model and photographs giving additional information on the proposal as it related to the Park and the adjacent neighborhood. At this meeting the Park Service was represented, and it and a number of citizens from the neighboring community, with professional consultants, voiced concern over the design and more particularly the height and its likely impact on the adjacent park and residential areas. In the re-examination of information and materials that were presented, the Commission found that the project as presently proposed was too high and would intrude into the park scene. The Commission asked the applicant for additional information about the actual location and size of the trees in the park, and additional design studies that would focus on reducing the height and apparent mass of the new building. At the same time, the Commission would like to see the same architectural quality retained, emphasizing the varied roofline and setbacks which help in breaking up the mass of the building and thus reduce the impact on the park.

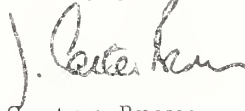
...2/

The Commission also took note of several other observations made by the neighboring citizens and the Park Service representatives regarding the obtrusiveness of the entrances to the parking garage and the loading docks. Anything that can be done to mitigate these areas of concern would be in the interest of preserving the character of the adjacent areas, and should be carefully studied by the architects.

We will be meeting again on June 10 and July 29 and will be happy to consider new studies at that time.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "J." being prominent and the last name "Brown" written in a more connected script.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Ernest Pifer
Chief
D.C. Permits Branch
Room 105
614 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDRICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

June 12, 1980

Dear Senator Randolph:

On behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts, I am happy to submit our report on S. 2080, a bill to establish public building policies for the Federal Government, to establish the Public Buildings Service in the General Services Administration, and other related matters.

The Commission welcomes any legislation which will improve the design level of the Federal Government's public buildings program. We are therefore encouraged to see that provisions of this bill would severely curtail the current trend of leasing privately constructed buildings for occupancy by federal employees. Built in the absence of any design controls and specifications that would ensure high standards, many buildings constructed under this program simply are not adequate for federal occupancy. Oftentimes the results are undistinguished architecturally, and in some instances are physically deficient. Poorly-designed buildings reflect poorly on the government and in the end adversely affect the quality of services that are delivered to the public.

The Commission also strongly supports increasing procurement of architectural services through design competitions, especially where a major public building is involved. However, we question whether rigid limits should be set by law that would require all services within certain cost ranges to be procured by this method. It would probably be better to incorporate some latitude in the process, since there will be instances where a design competition is simply not feasible or warranted. As a rule, however, competitions are an excellent way of obtaining the best designers, a fact that is borne out by experience in other countries where this method of selection is regularly employed. The American Institute of Architects has adopted an excellent set of guidelines for the holding of competitions and it might be helpful to your committee to refer to them when considering this bill in greater detail. It should be noted that the primary purpose of a competition is to select the architect and not a final design. Only through extensive consultation between client and architect does the final design of a building emerge. This is especially true when the programmatic requirements for a building are complex, as is the case in many federal building types.

Title V, involving exhibitions and works of art in federal buildings, is particularly encouraging to the Commission of Fine Arts. We have, over a period of many years, urged Congress to enact legislation that would provide for the setting aside of a certain percentage of construction funds for the commissioning of permanent works of art. Although no legislation has ever been enacted, various administrators of GSA have undertaken such programs with varying degrees of success. Obviously legislation that would mandate a consistent application of funds toward a permanent acquisition program would offset the current unevenness, and furthermore would ensure the continuation of a valuable program by not leaving it up to the proclivities of changing administrations.

Our public buildings are one of the more tangible forms of expressing the goals and aspirations of our society. The Commission is delighted to support this bill which we feel would go far toward achieving an appropriate public architecture of which we can all be proud.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable
Jennings Randolph
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

709 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-366-1066

June 3, 1980

Dear Mr. Costanzo:

The Commission of Fine Arts appreciated the chance to meet with you at Arlington Cemetery on May 13, 1980 concerning the proposed changes of materials for the Columbarium niche covers and renovations to the Amphitheatre. We also were delighted that you could join us in our tribute to Major L'Enfant.

In inspecting the Columbarium, the Commission approved the use of a darker grey marble for niche covers after you showed us samples--one relatively light, the other darker. One suggestion that the Commission members had during this inspection was for additional shade trees within the walled area. This would contribute to the dignity and comfort within the walled areas, especially on very hot days.

During our tour of the Amphitheatre, the Members found no objection to the proposed replacement of the present plywood stage area with marble. This would involve enlarging the present top platform only and would have little effect on the main floor of the Amphitheatre. In our view this would be a far better solution than extending the stage by raising the lower front apron area. Doing this does involve modifications to the steps on either side of the stage, which we hope can be detailed to be similar to the existing steps by extending existing moldings and trim to match as closely as possible.

The proposed door for handicapped access to the main floor was another item of concern for the Commission. Our suggestion is to follow the basic symmetry of the structure, and to put matching doors on each side of the main auditorium seating. We would further recommend that they match other doors at the site, but be painted gray and that the surrounding trim be similar to the simple exterior trim surrounding the windows to harmonize with the marble. We will be happy to meet with the architects and discuss these recommendations in greater detail if you think that would be useful.

...2/

I was interested in learning of your plan to include handrails on the main steps. As I mentioned to you, the National Gallery has recently addressed the same problem, and David Scott on its staff would be happy to share with you designs and suppliers of extensions if you so wished.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", with a stylized flourish at the end.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert J. Costanzo
Superintendent
Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, Virginia 22211

